

HARRIETT BALDWIN MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

May 26, 2020

Thank you for contacting me about the Prime Minister's adviser, Dominic Cummings. Thank you, also for all you have done to observe the lockdown and to help us defeat the spread of the Covid-19 virus. I appreciate how hard it has been for everyone at this difficult time.

During the last two months I have been contacted by many constituents who have been struggling in very many different ways, and occasionally I have advised them that given their exceptional circumstances and if their GP agreed, they should travel to another location because of a specific vulnerability.

I have never met or communicated with Dominic Cummings and know nothing of his family circumstances, nor do I have confidence that all of the facts are in the public domain. I cannot say if I would have given the same exceptional advice to him if he had been a constituent who had contacted me asking for an interpretation of the guidance at the time.

While I have every human sympathy with Dominic Cummings, I think there is a higher bar for members of the Government. If the Government wants people to follow the public health advice in order to protect our NHS and save lives, then members of the Government, giving that advice, including the Prime Minister's adviser, need to follow it too.

The Government relies on moral authority to receive the consent of the people to such draconian reductions in their freedoms. Therefore, for the sake of future adherence to public health guidelines, I believe he should resign.

This was the basis of my internal communications to the powers that be over the weekend. I have also made sure that the strength of feeling I can observe in my mailbox has been passed on.

Thank you for contacting me on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harriett Baldwin".

Harriett Baldwin MP
Member of Parliament for West Worcestershire

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